

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

May 5, 2014

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates

### Week of May 5

MAP testing - Reading (5Z, 5M Monday. 5K, 5F Thursday)

### May 6-9

Bike Safety Program (3rd grade only)

### May 10

District 97 Fun Run

### May 8

IAAT (algebra placement test)

**THIS IS A CHANGE**

### Week of May 12

MAP testing - Math

### May 14

Robert Crown Field Trip

### May 16

Transition Picnic

### May 30th

Pool Outing

### June 9 (This is a CHANGE)

Completion Ceremony

### June 10

Last Day of School (Calendar Change) (Olympic Day)

## Transition Picnic

Our students will combine with the other 5th graders with whom they will be attending Brooks Middle School. These are students from Hatch, Whittier, and Lincoln. It should be a very fun afternoon. Students will arrive at Taylor Park 11:45. After eating a sack lunch, they will be divided into small groups with their future classmates. With their groups they will transition through stations featuring fun team-building games. We have around 375 fifth

graders attending, so we will be needing plenty of help. We would absolutely love it if you were able to help with set-up, running a station, or clean-up. Hopefully you received a Google Form, as well as a paper Volunteer Slip! To sweeten the deal, the Brooks PTO has generously offered a lunch of Potbelly Sandwiches to all volunteers.

### Fun Run

The District FUN RUN is this Saturday. All permission forms should be turned in to Mr. Williams by Thursday since he will not be in school Friday. You also can turn it in to him **Saturday** at the site (Lindberg Park) of the fun run event. Contact your child's teacher if you need another form.

### Typing Practice

Students can log on to Custom Typing from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is:  
<http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

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## SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

**Art** - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) Through the month of May, 5th graders have artwork on display at the Oak Park Public Library. In our Art room, we are working on developing a six-panel comic strip. The strip is autobiographical and will tell a short story of something memorable that happened to us. We are learning about exaggerations and varying camera shots (wide angled scene setters, head and shoulders crops and close-ups) to give our comics some visual impact and to make them fun to read.

**Music** - This week we will be continuing our Shakespeare project by creating an accompaniment on xylophones of our pieces and recording it on our ipads using Garage Band. Ms. Fernandez, my student teacher, will be leading classes this week. 5th Graders have also been given the opportunity to perform with the chorus for part of the song "Happy" at the Chicago Sky game on June 6th. Interested 5th graders will have some lunchtime rehearsals to learn their portion of the song/dance. I sent some students home with information on the event. Students would need to buy tickets for themselves and any guests (parents, etc.) that want to come. Please email me at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org) for more information.

**Chorus** - A few announcements/ dates to keep in mind in the weeks to come

1. Our chorus concert with the gold belt recorder ensemble is on **Thursday May 15th at 6:30 p.m.** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (611 Randolph Street, Oak Park). Chorus members should arrive at 5:30 for a practice. They then will have a short break at 6 while the gold belt recorder ensemble practices. If you want to pack a snack for this break I will see if I can find an area for students to eat it. **Please email me if your child cannot make it to this event.**

2. **Our performance with the Chicago Sky is Friday 6/6 in the evening.** You should have received a ticket order form which should be dropped off in the PTO mailbox. I did want to specify that students will need to have their own ticket (just like we did for the Wolves last year for those who are returning members). If you cannot accompany your child, please write me. If you are able to provide a carpool for a child, please email me as well. The chorus will perform the first song and then we are hoping to get a lot of other Holmes groups involved in the last number, so I am hoping we get a huge Holmes crowd to support us! **Again please email me at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org) if your child cannot make it to the event.**

3. **Announcement for this week!!!** We are currently working on the song Ecce Gratum which has lyrics in Latin. I will be seeing this week which students know all the Latin by memory. If they do they

get a small prize from my treasure chest in the classroom.

**Spanish** - All classes have begun working with imovie and/or toontastic on their ipads. They are creating movies in Spanish....some are modified versions of stories we have already learned while others are new and original. They are having a great time inserting special effects and learning new tricks. It will be exciting to see what they create. <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/> .

**Library** - The narratives for the research project are due this Wednesday, May 7. As a reminder, we are using CultureGrams (provided to us by the OPPL) to research a country. The final piece will be a narrative over an imovie, describing a "day in the life" of a child living in that country. There is an example of the movie and the final narrative on the library page; just click the link below! This project will be completed during library time, so if you have any questions, feel free to email me, [mmaneck@op97.org](mailto:mmaneck@op97.org) . For more information, the library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/> .

**Physical Education** - ([www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com](http://www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com))

District Dance Unit Xbox 360 (Just Dance 4) is a rap. The kids loved the activity. Fitness and Conditioning activities are now in full swing. We prepare now for our District 97 Fun Run this Saturday; Lindberg Park; 8am. Looking forward to another grand turn from Holmes.

### **Resource**

Ms. Rose has created a new blog for the families of her Resource students. For more information on her activities, please visit: [Ms. Rose- Resource Support](#)

### **Reading/Literature**

This week, students will take the Reading portion of the Spring MAP test. Please support your student by making sure he/she gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast the morning of the test. 5M and 5Z are scheduled on Monday. 5K and 5F are scheduled on Thursday.

The rest of the week will focus on our 5th-grade literature skills. Last week, students showed what they know using a new interactive tool on their iPads. Edmodo Snapshot allowed us to gather immediate data regarding student proficiency and we will use this information to inform future lessons so we can focus on the areas where students may struggle more than other areas.

We will be reading part of the story called *The Color of Words* by Lynn Joseph. It is about a young girl who feels different, but is soon accepted by the town when her special writing talent is revealed.

### **Writing**

In writing students will finish and share their Imagination vs. Knowledge essay roughs.

### **Math**

There will be a test on Tuesday covering the geometry and volume unit. We will review in class on Monday. The Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test (IAAT) will be administered on Thursday. Brooks Middle School will use the results of the IAAT to help in determining placement for math next year.

Students should be working on the Million Dollar project. The objective of this project is to spend as close \$1,000,000 without going over that amount. Project guidelines are posted on the math page of the 5th grade wiki. This project is due June 2. Students will have some time to work on the project during class, but they will be required to work on it as homework as well.

### **Science**

Thank you to all the family members who helped with the heart dissection Friday! This week, we will begin our exploration of the nervous system. On Thursday this week, we will continue our hands-on exploration with an eyeball dissection. Please let us know if you are interested in assisting.

## **Social Studies**

In Social Studies students will begin to work on a Persuasive Writing essay. In order to prepare students will consider both sides of a number of issues relevant to their lives.

Students who want to improve their grade on their Constitution test will also have the chance to retake it on Friday.

## **Spelling/Word Study**

Students will have normal spelling words this week!

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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